TEMPERANCE.

THE CRUSADERS APPROACHING.

Remarkable Awakening of the Spirit.

Sketch of Present Temperance Organizations.

The fact is undeniable that the wave of the great temperance movement, now swelling and surging in the West, has at least caused a rise in the tide of temperance reform in the metropolis. But as yet

has no head or regular organization here. All is as much in chaos as when Andy Johnson went to Minessee from Washington to organize a government of law and order out of the muddle the Contederates had left the State in. As in Ohio, the crusade here requires a proper leader. But some fresh and vigorous individual will, no doubt, in due time spring up to lead the temperance hosts new in an choate state of organization in our city.

THE REGULAR TEMPERANCE ORGANIZATIONS. Meantime the regular temperance organizations in the city are aligning their forces, preparatory to the grand struggle when the new, or commonly called women's, movement shall be inaugurated here. But it should be understood that the women's movement, so called, out West, is not the mainspring nor the foundation of the temperance reformation that is quietly but steadily going on in this city. This new movement is peculiarly metropolitan, or a New York one, and, whether the Western feminine crusaders act as auxiliaries to It or vice versa, they will both, no doubt, act in harmony in order to accomplish the great good

THE NATIONAL TEMPERANCE SOCIETY. of which our well known citizen, William E. Dodge, is President, and among the managers of which are such respected men as the Rev. Dr. T. L. Cuyler, Rev. A. G. Lawson, Rev. M. C. Sutphen, Rev. Dr. John Hall, Rev. Cyrus D. Foss, J. N. stearns and many others, was organized in 1866 for the special work of creating and circulating a sound emperance literature. Among their monthly issues are the Truth's Temperance Banner, with a circulation of 100,000 copies, and the National Temperance Advocate, with a circulation of 10,000. The publication house of the society is constantly pubishing temperance books, printed and bound in handsome shape, which have been scattered in every State of the Union, among the inhabitants of Dominion of Canada and in the Old World. reaching millions of persons who have never had temperance truths brought home to them before. At this time the demand is so great that the presses of the publishing house can scarcely supply it, and yet the society, capable of accomplishing so much moral good, is in debt to the amount of \$10,000. Meanwhile, it is gratifying to find that the

PLEDGE OF TOTAL ABSTINENCE, kept at the rooms of the society in Reade street, is being daily signed by numbers of our best known citizens. The society and all the new members take a warm inferest in the new movement. SONS OF TEMPERANCE.

This is a temperance organization so well known that a reference to it is scarcely necessary here. that a reference to it is scarcely necessary nere.
It was instituted in 1842, ramifles throughout the
United States and Canada, and numbers thirtyseven grand and some 2,000 subordinate divisions.
The officers of the Grand Division in this city are
8. L. Parsons and E. H. Honkins. The Sons also
take a great interest in the new temperance movement inaugurated in Ohio, although not exactly
agreed as to the mode of prosecuting it. The Sons
have already taken initiative measures for getting
up a general demonstration to meet the demands
of the temperance revival now going on in various
parts of the country.
THE ORDER OF GOOD TEMPLARS
was instituted in 1851, numbers forty-five grand
and about 8,000 subordinate lodges. This Order
extends all over the world, includes men and
women upon perfect equality, has Robert Simpson,
of Glasgow, Scotland, for R. W. G. C., Rev. Charles
Garrett, of Liverpool, England, for R. W. G. C.,
and Mrs. Mattie McClellan Brown, of Alliance, Ohio,
for R. W. G. W. M. The latter has for some time
past been engaged in working up the new movement in Ohio with remarkable success.

THE ORDER OF THE TEMPLARS OF HONOR
was organized in 1845, and embraces twenty grand
temples, with subordinates in nearly all the States
of the Union. Among the officers of the Supreme
Council of the Order is R. C. Bull, M. W. R., of this
lity.

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS. It was instituted in 1842, ramifies throughout the

MISCELLANEOUS ORDERS.

Besides the above we may briefly refer to the other organizations known as the State Temperance Society, Social Temples, Snow Social Unions, Good Samaritans and Daughters of Samaria, Rechabites and Cadets of Temperance.

THE CATHOLG TOTAL ABSTINENCE SOCIETIES.

Perhaps there is no class in our community that has larger temperance organizations than our Catholic fellow citizens, and they are all doing good work, although they do not endorse the women's movement as now conducted.

en's movement as now conducted.

How THE WORK GOES ON IN THE CITY.

From the above it will be seen that the temperance organizations in the city have been of long standing, and when the new movement is fairly inaugurated there will be no want of well-disciplined battalions in the army of temperance to support it. Whatever the movement may eventually amount to in this city it cannot be concealed that there is a

ally amount to in this city it cannot be concealed that there is a

GREAT AWAKENING

among many persons in the habit of using ardent spirits to excess, as well as among the liquor dealers, saloon keepers, bar "princes" and others who have more or less to do with the traile. It is the talk of the town. The public mind is becoming aroused on the subject. Its discussion is not confined to churches or prayer meetings, but our fashlonable clubs, as well as the other places we have named, have taken stock in the new idea. What the friends of the cause have to do is to make the present movement so powerful, both pecuniarily and in regard to numbers, as to carry moral as well as physical force with it. There are no doubt a great many small dealers who would give up the traffic if they were shown any other way of making an honest living. The object should not be to crush these people out. This would be wrong. The cause of temperance can never be promoted by the employment of coercive measures to secure the desired purpose. Opinions may differ in regard to the proper mode of stopping the sale of liquor, but, after all the coercive steps that may be suggested are taken to that end, the quotation becomes apt—

He that complies against his will

He that complies against his will
Is of his own opinion still.

And as for women—and we are pained to say that
some of the gentler sex require as much praying
for in the matter of the use of ardent spirits and
exhilarating wines as many men who are called
confirmed drunkards—attempt to coerce her, and — If she will, she will, you may depend on't; And if she won't, she won't—so there's an end on't.

confirmed drunkards—attempt to coerce her, and

— If she will, she won't—so there's an end on't.

And if she won't, she won't—so there's an end on't.

Although of but a little more than a week's birth this city, the new movement has aroused the old horse of "strikers"—known as such in political coatests—but who may now be termed the TEMPERANCE LAZZARONI,

whose business is to select some prominent temperance convert, and atter protesting their devotion to the cause conclude their interviews by borrowing a dollar, or perhaps a quarter from the kind hearted convert. The nearest ginnery might probably tell the balance of the story. These temperance lazzaroni may be expected at almost every corner after the grand temperance wave begins to roll over the city. These fellows are the first to see any political or moral revolution, and will "go for" anybody they think they can swindle out of a dollar.

WHAT THE HOTEL AND FIRST CLASS RESTAURANT KEEPERS SAY.

From a pretty thorough canvass among the principal hotel and restaurant proprietors in this city touching the present temperance movement it may be concluded that, as a class, they do not apprehend any legal or other serious difficulty. These places pay a license fee to the city and revenue lees for the sale of liquors, cigars and as restaurants to the general government. They hold that if their business is interfered with by the visiting women's committees, or their saloons occupied, or the sidewalks are obstructed to the injury of their regular traffic, by any class of persons, whether they be singing, praying or exhorting parties, male or female, they have a right to invoke the aid of the city authorities for the sale male or female, they have a right to invoke the aid of the city authorities for the abatement of this as of a common nuisance, and call upon the police to have their demands executed. There are very few hotel keepers who are likely to invite their visitors to occupy their barrooms or parlors for prayer in the places where liquor is soid. If it be sin

especially directed against the violation of the Sunday law. In other words, preliminary arrangements looking toward domiciliary visits to drinking saloons are in progress. One lady visitant has already appeared before the proprietor of a well known resiaurant down town and asked him to sign a piedge to stop the sale of liquois. His reply was couched in broad Anglo-Saxon, when his visitant remarked, "I am a lady, sir." "And I am a business man, madam, and will not permit it to be interfered with with impunity." And the lady departed. These pioneer movements show which way the present crusade is tending, and by the aid of the puipit and the parsons, and the personal efforts of enthusiasts and fanatics, they are destined to create more than a nine day wonder in the city of New York.

THE CHAMPIONS OF WATER.

Hall Yesterday-Filthy Lucre Want-ed-Sister Lawrence Declares She Will Pray in the Mud if Necessary-Harry Hill to Open a Soda Fountain.

The working organization of temperance women met yesterday afternoon, at two o'clock, in Bain There was a very slim attendance, which included George Francis Train, and when the hour for opening the meeting arrived no lady was found willing to play an introductory on the piano. Mrs. Donellan, a wan, slim little woman, offered an impassioned prayer, in which she besought the to give the New York women the power he had given to the women of the West. Wickedness and corruption were spreading through the land, and this country was becoming a byword of re-proach for dishonesty and intemperance. Before the prayer was offered a bymn had been sung with spirit, and now another hymn, "Rock of Ages." &c., was sung.

Mrs. Annie E. Smith, a very tall, stout lady, took the chair. She opened the exercises by a lengthy reference to the meeting at Dr. Deem's church appointing a committee of temperance women to visit the saloons. To-day this meeting was called to enlist other women in this cause, and to enroll them as visitors. They were in no hurry to go to the saloons, as the proper time had not come yet. The women engaged in this movement were women of God, and whatever He would make known to them they would do. All women who were willing to distribute tracts should volunteer for this service. This terrible, terriblewhat should she call it ?-

TIDE OF SIN AND INIQUITY,

which was now sweeping over this country, must be stopped. To show how wretched men were made by drink she cited the case of a mother who died from a paralytic shock, and ner son, who had lost all his love for her through his frenzy for drink. She reiterated that it was time to stop this terrible tide of iniquity.
Some people, Mrs. Smith continued, had an idea

that when any particular excitement prevailed women were ready to do almost anything. There was no danger in visiting the saloons, and the speaker alluded to the many different and far more serious dangers she had encountered in the course of her eventrul career. God was capable of taking care of His handmaidens if they went into liquor

serious dangers such as encountered in the course of her eventual career. God was capable of taking care of His handmaldens if they went into liquor saloons. She did not believe in praying before a saloon and oostructing the street trame, although she would gladly go into a rum shop if she let that God desired her, but not otherwise.

Mr. A. T. McMullen said all who were here were probably interested in the success of this great work, and that they were in sympathy with this great movement. They had all only one wish, to accomplish the will of Almighty God. They would ask God to tell them what to do. It was impossible that the enthusiasm in the Westcould lail to do a great deal of good here. The stronger the liquor party the stronger the laws in their favor, and while they were bitterly opposed to the liquor trame it must be remembered that they were no enemies of those who carried on the traffic. No man, however, had a right to trade on the misery and degradation of his brothers. If there was any one here who had seen one of his dear ones coming nome reeling and intoxicated he would appreciate the motivos which impelied them to this movement. They who had been redeemed from this curse, could they

SUPPER OTHERS TO PERISH?

He would coniess again that he once was a victim to this cursed appetite. When men robbed them of their property or money it was had enough, but when they were robbed of all peace and happiness by this curse, was it not time for them to go to work? Let them go to work prudently, but let them proceed at once. They had pledges here, and they could go out and obtain signatures to them. They could go to the proprietors of buildings, and ask them not to rent houses to be used as rum shops. Within a gunshot of this hall there was one of the largert liquor places in this city, where the clinking of glasses and music could be heard even on sunday evenings in the church next door, and still that building was owned by an elder of a church, who was thus instrumental in sending souls to the devil. They

fervor.
Sister Lawrence, a short, thin lady, with sallow complexion, dark eyes and short hair, said there was a power in the land now, and she believed that the time to work was "just now." Yesterday she interviewed Harry Hill, and found his saloon filled with men who were drinking liquor. She was shown into a kitchen, where Mr. Hill presently made his annearance. She told Mr. Hill that the

was shown into a kitchen, where Mr. Hill presently made his appearance. She told Mr. Hill that the mothers and sisters of this city wanted him to abandon his business, as they desired to SAVE THEIR OWN BROHERS AND SONS from becoming drunkards. Mr. Hill said that he was under great expense and must make money. She asked him if it would make him happy in eternity to know that he had put poison in the moutns of young men? Mr. Hill asked her what other business he could begin, and she suggested a soda fountain or a tea and coffee saloon. She declared that the women meant work, and that, with the aid of God, they would shut up every rum shop in the city of New York. (Applause.) They loved the rumseilers, they loved the drunkards, because they had immortal souls. Some people taked of the impropriety of women going to saloons, but as for herself she would pray in the mud from Monday till Saturday to save these immortal beings from perdition. (Applause.) They could not bear the learful curse any longer, and they would pray so that they might live and their children might live and be saved irom liquor and ruin. (Applause.) A collection was then taken up, after which the meeting adjourned.

The Seventeenth Street Prayer Meeting. The usual daily prayer meeting took place yes terday at the Seventeenth street Methodist Epis church. The attendance was somewhat smaller than on Thursday. The proceedings were almost entirely confined to devotional exercises, almost entirely confined to devotional exercises, although special prayers were offered up in two instances for the benefit of dealers in ardent liquors. It is, however, expected that the ladies of the congregation will shortly organize and proceed to a vigorous distribution of tracts, while they will inaugurate a system of special prayer meetings on behalf of saloon keepers. It is thought that at present it is better to confine the proceedings to an attempt at arousing public sympathy by the aid of religious exercises rather than by the taking of more active measures.

Efforts to Engage the Clergy.

Yesterday, in accordance with the resolution passed the day previous by the Board of Managers of the National Temperance Society, circulars were sent out calling a meeting of the clergy of all de-Men's Christian Association on Monday afternoon next. The Methodist preachers will make the present religious and temperance revival the spe-cial subject of discussion on Monday next at their morning session. It is proposed that they attend the meeting at the Young Men's Christian Associa-

Extraordinary efforts are being made by the members of the Order of the Sons of Temperance to insure a large attendance at their mass meet-ing, to be held on Friday next, at the Seventh avenue Methodist church. A large number of the nue Methodist church. A large number of the Order, both in this city, Brooklyn and Jersey City, have already signified their intention of being present. On this day special prayer meetings have been announced to be held in Brooklyn, the expressed object being to pray for the success of the efforts of those working in the cause of virtue and sobriety in New York.

Sunday at Harry Hill's.

To-morrow evening Harry Hill's concert saloon will be again thrown open to the public in the cause of temperance. It is expected that, owing to the peculiar characteristics of the piace, as to the peculiar characteristics of the place, as large a crowd will there assemble as was the case last sunday. Mr. Hill says he is willing to be convinced, but wishes to have both sides of the question discussed. Those who will appear and argue on the part of total abstinence will be, it is said. Rev. G. J. Mingens, P. R. Lawrence, General Mullen. "Brick" Pomeroy, Chauncey Schaffer, Rufus F. Andrews and others. The parties to represent the other side have not yet sent in their names, although many well known public men have hinted their intention to take part in the argument. A number of ladies have sent letters to Mr. Hill announcing their determination to be present if proper order is kept. Mr. Hill, in reply, has written to assure them that ladies will be the most welcome guests, and that no disorderly conduct

Active Measures in Harlem The ladies of Harlem belonging to the different hurches are taking vigorous steps towards arranging for a mass meeting, to be held during the latter part of next week, as the first step towards propagating the great benefits of temperance. The Rev. W. C. Steel, pastor of the Beekman Hill church; Rev. Dio Lewis, who has had so much to do with the Western movement, and others, are already engaged to speak so soon as a day for the meeting is fixed.

meeting is fixed.

To-morrow a mass prayer meeting is to be held at the distillery, kept by Mr. Sands, at the corner of 119th street, under the leadership of Rev. W. Bowdish, of the 119th street Methodist Episcopal church. Mr. Sands has expressed his willingness to give up the traffic in liquors. The result is expected to be that his place will be taken for the purpose of holding a daily prayer meeting therein. On the Sunday following a special prayer meeting will be held in the 119th street church.

Alarm Among Saloon Keepers.

Considerable anxiety is felt among the German lager bier and other saloon keepers in the Twelfth, Nineteenth, Twenty-second and Thirty-second which they evidently fear is being commenced against them. Several of the most prominent of them came together last evening at a saloon on Third avenue, and discussed the question of forming a mutual protective association. Considerable discussion was had when it was finally determined to await turther result before taking any action in the matter.

THE MOVEMENT IN BROOKLYN.

The Women's Temperance Society met yesterday in the Reformed Church on the Heights, Monroe place, the President, Mrs. Elwell, in the chair. Addresses were made by Miss Sarah Smiley and others. The ladies prayed that "they might not shrink from any duty, no matter however disagreeable and hard." and that "the drunkard may fall on his knees and say, 'Lord save me, or I perish.'" It was resolved to canvass the churches and community for the purpose of obtaining the names of the women who are willing to engage personally in the work. It was decided to establish and maintain temperance prayer meetings in various sections of the city. Temperance pleages are to be circulated among all classes, and landlords will be urged against the renewal of leasing premises for the sale of liquors. Circulars will be distributed among the "ginseilers," appealing to them to give up their business and enter upon some more laudable occupation in life. Bands of ladies of six each are to be assigned to a limited number of liquor salcons to visit them from time to time in a quiet way for persuasion to desist from the traffic, It was resolved to call a mass meeting to be held in the Hanson place church on next Thursday evening. fall on his knees and say, 'Lord save me, or I

THE MOVEMENT IN JERSEY.

Last night an enthusiastic meeting of the followers and propagators of temperance was held in St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church, Jersey City, Rev. D. R. Lowrie presiding. The church was well Rev. D. R. Lowrie presiding. The church was well filled, the principal part of the congregation being composed of ladies. Several speakers addressed the meeting upon the great good to be effected by proper organization and perseverance, especially by personal visitation and action by the ladies. It was announced that other meetings would be held during the ensuing week, when it was hoped that the lady portion of the community would show their zeal in the cause by attending. Among those present were Mrs. Adams, of Harlem, and Miss Anna Raymond, both of whom have done good work in the work of organizing the ladies into a temperance league.

THE TEMPERANCE QUESTION IN CONGRESS.

The Proposed Commission to Collect Statistics on Whiskey, &c .- The Politieal Drift of the Agitation, the Suppression of Intemperance, or Repressive Measures from Congress-Cheap Transportation as a Branch of the Temperance Movement.

WASHINGTON, March 6, 1874. For a week or two past the Senate has been discussing from time to time a joint resolution proriding for the appointment by the President of a commission of five persons to collect statistics of the consumption of alcoholic liquors throughout the United States. The commissioners are to serve without pay, and only some \$10,000 will be required for the contingent expenses of their researches. The ultimate object of their labors is lative measure or measures from Congress for the suppression of alcoholic intemperance. The idea of the commission is said to come from the Congressional Temperance Society, of which Vice ber. The statistics contemplated will doubtless embrace the capital and labor employed in the manufacture of spirituous and fermented liquors in every State and Territory of the Union, and the quantities of such liquors consumed in the several States and Territories, the number of persons in each State and Territory employed in the liquor traffic, wholesale and retail; and the statistics of crime, destitution, disease and deaths resulting from the intemperate use of alcoholic stimulants, and the resulting costs and losses to individuals, families, communities and to the States and Territories and to the United States.

REPRESSIVE MEASURES TO BE RECOMMENDED. The commission will next doubtless recommen some repressive measures from Congress_some rigid system of taxation against the manufacture and sale of spirituous and fermented liquors from the distillery and the brewery to the corner grocery and the beer garden. Such is surely the underlying purpose of the temperance party in this proposed commission. Their purpose is to bring the temperance agitation directly into Congress upon a bill or bills for the suppression of intemperance throughout the United

past is to bring the temperance agitation directly into Congress upon a bill or bills for the suppression of intemperance throughout the United States, and if they can suppress it in no other way to tax it out of existence.

A PHASE OF WOMEN'S RIGHTS.

The proposition has assumed already the form of a republican measure. There is a temperance party in many of the States which is deemed worth conclinating—in New Hampshire and Connecticut, for instance. Above all, the present astonishing crusade of singing and prayer by the women of the West against the liquor saloons is a women's rights movement, which cannot be despised; for behind these bands of singing and praying women stand large bodies of voters who will be heard from in the fail elections on the temperance agitation. Like the abolition movement, having passed the incipient stage of a moral agitation, it is becoming a political movement, and is coming into Congress.

Democratic members may cry out State rights; beware of further steps towards a centralized despotsmil Mr. Schurz may say that this commission for collection of alcoholic statistics is outside the proper functions of Congress; that your may as well inquire into the statistics of diseases resulting from the consumption of soda biscuits or into the evisit resulting from female extravagance in dress; but the liquor commission will be ordered as the clearing of the ground for the suppression of alcoholic intemperance, so far as it can be suppressed, but it is a movement of the Temperance, so far as it can be suppressed, in the liquor salous in the liquor dealers congress.

Great increases of the suppression of alcoholic intemperance in other than the liquor salous of the Union that is perfectly astoniding; that the census of 157 does not furnish the nest four years, irom year to year, driven by want of other employment, or attracted by the profits of the Union that is perfectly astoniding; that the census of 157 does not furnish the needing statistics upon that matter; that within the last four yea

perance League, in addition to their commission for whiskey statistics, will get from this session some increased taxation on whiskey; if for noth-ing else, for the good will of the praying bands of the women of the West.

PUT NONE BUT WOMEN ON GUARD.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD :-

If this war against the liquor dealers is to be carried to a successful issue it must be conduct by women. What should be the plan of the campaign we venture not to suggest; that must be left to the fertile resources of female ingenuity. It may be a question whether our New York rumsellers are as easily reached by the power of prayer as were those in Onio and Indiana. fear that ours are of the kind that go not out but by fasting and prayer. If they could be made to fast as long as the women prayed the result would not be doubting. The ladies of New York and Brooklyn are as wise

and brave as their sisters in the West. Surely they have as good reason to be in mighty earnest. Their cause is the same. The wrongs they have Their cause is the same. The wrongs they have suffered are as great. They seek not to avenge those wrongs, but to protect themselves against their repetition. They ask not "indemnity for the past," but they demand security for the inture.

Temperance movements have been inaugurated and managed aimost invariably by men ever since the organization of the old Washingtonian society. A thirty years' war has been carried on by the "Washingtonians," the "Sons," the "Rechabites" and kindred associations; but during most of this time the war has been conducted on peace principles. A dignified conservatism has prevailed. Few aggression campaigns have been planned. An occasional attempt has been made to secure legislative action for prohibiting or regulating the sale of intoxicating liquors. To this end alliances with the politicians have sometimes seemed expedient; but they have proyed mere "entanging alliances," and have resulted in little good. Politicians, as a class, are not friends to the temperance cause, and this assertion includes all grades, from the lowest grogshop brawler up to him who sits in our State or national Legislature and calls himself a statesman. Temperance men have learned to put not their trust in politicians. The societies above named have done a noble work in reforming drunkards and in saving thousands of young men from a drunkard's life. But what have they done in all these years towards suppressing the rum traffic? Nothing. We venture the assertion that there are now more grog shops in proportion to the population in these two cities than ever before. Since the efforts of men have so entirely failed to reach the source of the great evit we are giad that women are ready to come to the rescue. We welcome them as the suffered are as great. They seek not to avenge nave so entirely failed to reach the source of the great evil we are glad that women are ready to come to the rescue. We welcome them as the forlorn hope. We would have the temperance army reorganized, with women as leaders and women to constitute the rank and file. Let but few men be calisted—just enough to do the drudgery of the camp. Assign them to no places of honor or danger. Few of them can be trusted within sight for smell) of the enemy's lines. But we can trust the earnest, faithful praying woman. "Put none but women on guard" should be a special order from the commander-in-chief. Issue but one proclamation to the liquor dealers, and let it be this, "We propose to move upon your works migediately."

THE FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE'S "CHARITY."

TO THE EDITOR OF THE HERALD !-

I am delighted to see that English dramatic writers deal with social subjects as fearlessly as French dramatists. Our Gallic brethren have never minced these matters. Vice they have held up for public execration, and hypocrisy they have always unmasked. Old classic British writers were quite as bold, but their successors in these days have been afraid to touch social subjects for fear of being considered indelicate. American dramatists have been and are so squeamish that they dare not paint sin in any of its recognized colors. All hall. then, to the effort of a new and powerful English mind in the direction of vigorous combat upon the side of virtue!

The occasion of these remarks is the recent production of W. S. Gilbert's drama, "Charity," at the Fifth Avenue Theatre. Here is a play which is the best we have had from England in ten years. It surpasses Robertson's "Caste," "School," "Home," &c., immeasurably. Its plot is strong, decided and absorbing; its dialogue witty beyond all reasonsble expectation in modern plays; its situations intense and its incidents crowd thick and fast.

I went to see it acted at the Fifth Avenue Thea-

that dared touch the sacred subject of woman's folly. I knew, of course, it would be elegantly acted, because the best performers in Mr. Dalv's company were in it, and I was certain we should have the subject presented at its best. Well, what did I see? A play in four acts that lasted three ent alternate tributes of copious tears, loud and hearty laughter and vociferous applause. The audience was one of the very choicest ever gathered in a theatre—as the audience at the Fifth Avenue is sure to be. This audience of intelligent, refined, pure and bright people, sharing with Wallack's the cream of New York in solidity and intelhgence, applauded "Charity" to the echo, as they have applauded "Money." At times the play had to be stopped to permit these outbursts of approbation. Never has a play been so continuously interrupted by expressions of delight. Hardly a house." Now, what were those speeches? They were pointed hits at the follies, the frailties, the deceptions, the lies and the hypocrisies of the day! There was no mincing the lesson taught. It was a sound lashing of the wickedness of uncharitableness, and every lash echoed in the applicase of the

sound lashing of the wickedness of uncharitableness, and every lash echoed in the applause of the
hearers. Then the tears that were shed! The
sympathy excited by the sorrows of the women of
the piece was a sure sign of the feeling of the
best American hearts for women who have sufiered, but who have risen superior to their sufferings and their temptations.

I tell you, Mr. Editor, the people have hearts,
and this play touches them. May the discovery of
the fact excite our American writers to a sense of
their responsibility. Our novelists are not afraid
to tell the story of woman's woe and woman's repentance in books which we all read, but our dramatists are straid to tell that story in their plays.
It is a truttuit theme. Hundreds or plays might be
written to expose the cant that stifles in our soclety the voice of sympathy. The fallen have sunk
lower for want of that sympathy. It is considered
a revolting topic to touch on. Wn? Our ministers and our churches take up the subject and try
to work the reform of the frail. But the theme
they may dilate upon is thought too 'indelicate''
for the theatre! But the blow to cant has been
struck. "Charity" delivers that blow full between
the eyes, and its moral is plain.

As to the characters in the play, they seem
chosen by inspiration. Mrs. Van Brugh, a young
widow, and her daughter Eve, are ladies moving in
the very best English rural society. The mother believes herself to be the victim of her late husband's
villany, and that she was not his lawful wife.
Knowing how fatal would be such a discovery, she
devotes her life to deeds or charity, which may be
accepted by Providence as an atonement and propitiation to avert a public exposure. But it comes
of Old Smalley, his son, Fred Smalley, and that
precious vessel, Skinner (played with a power and
brillancy that were worth a dozen sermons).
They turn the defenceless woman forth, rob her of
her property, break off the match between her
daughter and Fred Smalley and heap every degradation upon-her.

But

They turn the defenceless woman forth, rob her of her property, break off the match between her property, break off the match between her property, break off the match between her daughter and Fred Smalley and heap every degradation upon her.

But the antitheses of these canting villains is found in the pure and upright Bishop Athelney, his son Ted Athelney, and the sharp but conscientious detective Fitzpartington. These three foll the efforts of the other three in their plots against Mrs. Van Brugh and Eve, restore the good name and fortune of the injured women and bring the play to a happy conclusion.

But the greatest picture drawn by the dramatist was that of Ruth Tredgett. This was presented by an actress who on that night startled me and the public by stepping with ease from high comedy into a role demanding intense dramatic power, fine sensibility and exquisite character painting. The personation was a marvei; a thing to be remembered, Here is the character:—A tramp, a poor, wretched, ragged, herce, untamed creature—a thief, a jailbird and—worse. But a woman! A woman who can be saved if a helping hand be stretched out. And that hand was found in Mrs. Van Brugh. True charity does its work. The outcast is saved. The struggle was hard. The authence was melted to tears in that grand scene where the aristocratic English lady took perforce the reluciant hand of the tramp, Ruth Tredgett, and litted her into the light of mercy and reformation. This act saved the aristocratic lady. Ruth Tredgett was the possessor of proof of Old Smalley's villany, and, acting it concert with the good and noble hearts in the play, took an important part in bringing the hypocrites to justice.

A glorious play for those who longed to see an English treatment of what we have hitherto thought an exclusively French subject. All honor to the actors who made these remarkable characters live and walk and speak; to the manager who had faith in the appreciation of an American public; to that audience which received the play with open arms.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

More Mandamuses-Bills for Work on Armories-The Power of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to Appropriate \$700,000 for Contingencies Denied-Full Report of the Committee on Civil Courts-The Law Cited.

Pursuant to adjournment this Board held a session yesterday afternoon, Mr. Samuel H. B. Vance, in the absence of the Mayor, presiding. The ninutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

A peremptory mandamus signed by Judge Larremore, directing the Board of Supervisors to audit and allow the bills of Patrick Stuart and others for amounting to \$1,659, was served upon the Board. On a motion made to lay over and make this mandamus the special order for Monday next Recorder Hackett rose and said that in this matter as he did in the previous session upon other man-damuses—viz., that the Board had no alternative but to allow the claim. Supervisor Flanagan offered a resolution to this effect, which was adopted, Supervisors Ottendorfer and McCafferty voting in the negative.

The Committee on Armories and Drillrooms reported in favor of paying the oili of Jacob Weber for masonwork done on Centre Market Armory, originally handed in for \$21,474 41, at \$20,994 51. Supervisor Van Schalk could not see why this slight reduction only should be made after the committee had once reported in favor of paying for the same work performed an amount of only \$9,000. If the labor was done, and well done, why not pay the full amount claimed by Mr. Weber? He moved to lay the matter over for one week, to give the members an opportunity to examine the matter more closely.

Supervisor PETER KEHR argued in favor of paying the amended bill, inasmuch as a number of experts who measured the work done reported in favor of paying \$20,994 51. Mr. Hatfield, whose word was relied upon, proposed allowing Mr. Weber's bill at only \$9,000.

Supervisor Van Schalex said-It has been said that some member of this board has been interested in the work done on this armory, at least so far as to endorse notes of the contractors furnishing material. He hoped, therefore, that the subject would not be pressed at this time, but that the members would be given an opportunity to investigate. The motion to reconsider the resolution already adopted, to pay Mr. Weber \$9,000 for this work, was rescinded. On motion of Supervisor MONHEIMER the con-

sideration of the report was laid over until the

A bill of the Manhattan Gas Company, for lighting the County Jail from September 14, 1872, to December 31, 1873, for \$2,837, was ordered paid, as also the bills of several morning journals, for publishing the Sheriff notices of the last election.

On motion, the Sixth regiment, N. G. S. N. Y.,
was ordered to occupy Glass Hall, instead of
Nilsson liail, and the Major General commanding
the First Division requested to carry out the guid
instruction. also the bills of several morning journals, for pub-

CONTINGENT ESTIMATES.

Supervisor Billings called up the report of the Committee on civil Courts, made to the Board February 16, and laid over, concerning the power of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to make appropriations for county contingencies, which was unanimously adopted.

The committee recite the preamble and resolutions referring the subject to said committee as follows:—

The committee recite the preamble and resolutions referring the subject to said committee as follows:—

Whereas by the 112th section of the amended Charter of 1873 (Chap. 335 of Laws of 1873), it is provided, in order to enable the board of Estimate and Apportionment to make the provisional estimate of the amounts required to pay the expenses of conducting the public business of the city and county of New York, that the heads of departments and the Board of Education shall send of departments and the Board of Education shall send of the amount of expenditure resistance in writing of the amount of expenditure resistance in writing of the amount of expenditure resistance were the furnished by the several departments before the Board of Estimate and Apportionment made its estimate for the current year, and were beforehand considered by it; and whereas in the said departments before the Board of Estimate and Apportionment made its estimates for the current year, and were beforehand considered by it; and whereas in the said departmental estimates there were included amounts sufficient, in the judgment of the respective heads thereof, to meet and pay all expenditures which could not be foreseen, usually called and known as contingencies, which in the agreements of the city and county; and whereas the Board of Estimate and Apportionment has, in its final estimate of the amount to be raised by tax upon the catates, real and personal, subject to taxation within the city and county of New York, included the sum of half a million of dollars for city contingencies and \$200,000 for county contingencies; now, therefore, be it Resolved, That insumuch as grave doubts exist as to the power of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to include the said two sums, or any other sum; in its provisional estimates for city or county contingencies with the said sum of \$200,000 for the county as provisional estimate and Apportionment to include in its provisional estimate the several items of \$500,000 for the county, as special continge

That, upon a careful onvestigation of the whole subject, they are clearly of onvestigation of the whole subject, they are clearly of onvestigation of the whole subject, they are clearly of onvestigation of the whole subject, they are clearly of the that the powers reversed to do not exist in the Board of Satinate and Apportionment, which was created under and in pursuance of the provisions of section 12 of the amening of the section may be readily combrehended we insert it in full. It is as follows: A mamended by section 20, chapter 727, Law of 1871,—The Mayor, Comptroller, President of the Hoard of Aldermen and the Fresident of the Department of Taxes and Assessments shall constitute a Board of Satination and Apportionment, who shall, annually, between the high provisional estimate of the amounts required to pay the expenses of conducting the public business of the city and county of New York. In each of the city and county of New York in each of the city and county of New York in each of Education, for the them next ensuing financial year. In such provisional estimate they shall include such sum as may be necessary for the payment of the interest on the bonds of the said city and county and such sum as shall be necessary to pay the principal of any bonds and stocks which may become due and payable from taxes during said year, and also so much as may be necessary to pay the principal of any bonds and stocks which may become due and payable from taxes during said year, and also so much as may be necessary to pay the principal of any bonds and stocks which may become due and payable from taxes during said year, for the proposition of the State tax in said year. Such provisional estimate shall be prepared in such detail as to the aggregate sum allowed to each department and bureau as the said Board of Apportionment; and estimate shall be prepared in the proposition of the State tax in said year. Such provisional estimate have the provisional estimate in the control of the said shall be made as herein provised, an

cised by the Board of Retinants and Approximental papersoriate any sum of more for any optimize their than "to pay the expenses of conducting the public business of the city and county of New York, in each department and branch thereof, and the Board of Education," after the manner and in the form prescribed by said provisions of law, which are cicarjy set forth there-and the which require the several heads of lepartments and the which require the several heads of departments. In the world of the said provisions of law, which are cicarjy set forth there-and the world of the said forth there are city of the said footh, then not be submitted to and considered by the Board of Aldermen, transmitted by the clerk thereof to the said Board of Sumaic and Apportionment, with the objections and a final estimation by the Board of Aldermen, and then a final estimation by the Board of Aldermen, and then sent and the said Board of Apportionment. Not an lots of made by said Board of Apportionment the right to make appropriate and Apportionment the right to make appropriate and Apportionment the right to make appropriate and Apportionment and the Board of Education; consequently the appropriation by that body of the sum of \$500,000 for special city, section 112 of the present city chid appropriate connected with the puolic business of this city, section 112 of the present city chid Apportionment, and prescribes its powers and duties, is clear and empirate in defining the mode and form to be observed by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, and prescribes its powers and duties, is clear and empirate in defining the mode and form to be observed by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, and prescribes its powers and duties, is clear that done, the sum of \$500,000 for special city, apportion of the large sum thus illegally appropriated. If it is most dangerous precedent to establish, as it is clear that this flow that the sum of the prescribe appropriate of the city sovernment and keep them in subject to be ready appropriated

ence, whose acts may be in marked contrast to those of the wresent members. The present Board having, as your committee believe, through an erroneous interpretation of the laws prescribing their powers and duties, added \$700,000 lilegally to the taxes to be the city and county if such a misbitants of the city and county if such a misbitants is the city and county if such a misbitant is to prevent a subsequent Board from appropriating, in a like manner, ad tibitism, to meet the supposed exigencies of the public business? If three-quarters of a million a like manner, ad tibitism, to meet the supposed exigencies of the public business? If three-quarters of a million dollars can begally be appropriated in this manner this year five or ten or twenty millions of dollars can be, in like manner, appropriated next year, and so on, ad se-justima, until the city and county are bankrupt.

In conclusion, your committee beg leave to give it as their opinion that there is not any provision of law authorizing the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to make apprepriations other than those known to be necessary to conduct the public business of the city and county, and predicate i upon the estimates of the several departments of the city government and the Foard of Education, or in obedience to existing provisions of law; that they have not been able to ascertain what other or department of the city government is authorized or on that they have not been able to ascertain what other or department of the city government is authorized or of the city and the foard of the city and the foard of authority and without warrant of law.

O. P. C. Billings,
S. V. R. COOPER,
JOS. A. MONHEIMER,
RICHARD FLANAGAN.

Committee County and county and additional additi

After the adoption of the report the Board adjourned to meet next Monday.

WILLIAMSBURG YACHT CLUB.

At the recent annual meeting of this club, held at their house foot of Eagle street, Greenpoint, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year:—Commodore, William H. Rexter; Vice Commodore, James Ciliford; President, T. W. Reeves; Secretary, Charles E. Mielke; Assistant Secretary, A. Parick; Treasurer, Charles Lahman; Grissan; Trustees, S. S. Free, Frank Thorne, Isaac Merrett, Edward Grissan, William Sware; Regatta Merrett, Edward Grissan, William Sware; Regatta Committee, Gallaudet Pease, Levi Smith, William Joy, George W. Kildt, E. O. Tuttle. The club has a membership of over 100, and the balance in the treasury is of a very satisfactory amount. A new club house has been built within the past year, and on the books of the organization is a feet of twenty cabin and open boats. The annual regatta will take place in June.

HORSE NOTES.

The entries for the stakes to be run for at Monmouth Park during the coming summer meetings have been made. We give a comparative table of the number for this year with that of 1873:—

The above stakes closed on the lat inst., and the numbers given are those received up to last night. There are, doubtless, some more on the way, and

There are, doubtiess, some more on the way, and when all have been received we will publish the complete lists of the names and pedigrees of the horses. The above number for 1874 shows an increase in the aggregate over the previous year of thirteen.

The late Charleston races were so popular that another meeting of two days' duration has been decided on—Friday and Saturday of this week.

Messrs. Smith & Higbee, of St. Louis, Mo., have purchased the gray mare Bertie (trotter) for \$7,000.

Messrs. Lawrence & Lorillard have added to their racing stable Hyder All, by Leanington, dam Lady Duke, two years old, and Lady Bruce, by Leanington, dam Lady Sherwood, three years old. Wyndam Welden will train for the above gentleman at Jerome Park.

dam waiten will train for the above gentleman at Jerome Park.

Messrs. Lawrence & Co. have sold the celebrated hurdler Lochiel to Mossrs. Stewart & Whitney, ol illinois, for \$1,000.

J. F. Chamberlin's race horses True Blue and Weathercock left San Francisco, Cal., for home on Wednesday last. They will reach Long Branch the latter part of next week.